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Appl. No. PCT/US2005/03141
Response Dated February 23, 2006
Reply to Written Opinion of December 23, 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : PCT/US2005/03141
Applicant : Kent Displays Incorporated
Filed : January 28, 2005
Title : STACKED DISPLAY WITH SHARED ELECTRODE
ADDRESSING

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Customer No. : 000,116
Docket No. : 36398WO

COPY

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO WRITTEN OPINION

Sir:

This is in response to the Written Opinion mailed December 23, 2005. The period for responding to the Written Opinion expires on March 23, 2006.

"Express Mail" mailing label number <u>EV740231766US</u>
Date of Deposit <u>February 23, 2006</u>
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REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the statement in the Written Opinion that the present claims lack novelty and inventive step is respectfully requested.

It is submitted that the International Searching Authority has misinterpreted the Umeya reference, US 2003/0031845. The Written Opinion states:

"Claims 1-34 [sic] novelty... as being anticipated by Umeya et al.... [which] shows a liquid crystal display having a plurality of stacked layers (In fig. 1) and a plurality of electrically conductive layers disposed so as to be located near both of opposing surfaces of the liquid crystal layers wherein only one of the electrically conductive layers is disposed between adjacent the liquid crystal layers (section 0034) and a top electrode layer and a first middle electrode layer and a third layer and bottom electrode layer (In fig. 2, 3) and a reflective state of a portion the first liquid crystal layer corresponding to a pixel of the display is changed by providing a voltage difference between and electrode of the top electrode layer and an electrode of the upper middle electrode layer and adapted such that the reflective state of a portion and second liquid crystal layer corresponding to the pixel of the display (section 0039)."

The sections of Umeya referred to the passage above do not stand for the propositions for which the Searching Authority is relying on them. For example, section 0034 does not disclose an electrically conductive layer at all let alone one disposed between adjacent liquid crystal layers. Nowhere in the reference, let alone at section 0039, is there a disclosure of changing a reflective state of a pixel of a display by providing a voltage difference between electrode layers.

Umeya does not remotely disclose or render obvious the features of the claimed invention. To the extent the above passage in the Written Opinion can be understood, it is incorrect. Umeya does not disclose a liquid crystal display as claimed at all, nor does this reference disclose an electrode layer as claimed. Moreover, there is no disclosure in this reference of only one electrically conductive layer between adjacent liquid crystal layers and

AP20 RECEIVED 7/10/06 8 JUL 2006

drive electronics adapted to apply the same voltage pulses to the adjacent liquid crystal layers along the one electrically conductive layer (e.g., Applicant's claim 1). In view of the foregoing, a favorable indication of the novelty and inventive step of the claimed invention over Umeya is respectfully solicited.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 36398WO.

Respectfully submitted,

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